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4. (Amended) A composition as claimed in claim 1 which consists of (i) - (iv) as defined in claim 1 apart from any unavoidable impurities.

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5. (Amended) A composition as claimed in claim 1 wherein (i) is an inorganic salt of zinc, magnesium, copper, selenium, iron, nickel, titanium or vanadium.

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7. (Amended) A composition as claimed in claim 5 in which said salt (i) is a zinc, magnesium, copper, iron or selenium salt.

9. (Amended) A composition as claimed in claim 1 in which the metal ion modifier (ii) is at least one metal ion binding, complexing, or sequestering agent.

A3

10. (Amended) A composition as claimed in claim 1 wherein (ii) comprises one or more inorganic ammonium compounds capable of dissociating in water into ammonium ions such as one or more of: ammonium sulphate, ammonium chloride, ammonium phosphate, and ammonium citrate.

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12. (Amended) A composition as claimed in claim 1 in which (iii) comprises one or more of sulphuric, hydrochloric, phosphoric and citric acids.

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14. (Amended) A composition as claimed in claim 1 in which (iv) consists essentially of distilled water or

entirely of distilled water apart from any unavoidable impurities.

15. (Amended) A composition as claimed in claim 1 in which the pH value is less than 5, preferably less than 4, more preferably less than 3, most preferably less than 2.5.

A5

16. (Amended) A composition as claimed in claim 15 in which the pH value is 2 or less such as in the range of 1 to 2.

17. (Amended) A composition as claimed in claim 1 in which the electrolytic potential is in excess of 20 millivolts, preferably in excess of 50 millivolts and more preferably in excess of 100 millivolts.

21. (Amended) A method of making a composition as claimed in claim 1 comprising dissolving (i) in distilled water, adding (ii) and mixing or allowing to dissolve.

A6

22. (Amended) A method as claimed in claim 21 in which (i) is as defined in claim 5.

23. (Amended) A method as claimed in claim 21 in which (ii) is defined in claim 11.

24. (Amended) A method as claimed in claim 21

wherein (iii) is as defined in claim 12.

25. (Amended) Use of a composition as claimed in claim 1 as a medicament for treating or preventing a pathogenic disease or disorder.

26. (Amended) A composition as claimed in claim 1 for the preparation of a medicament for treating or preventing a pathogenic disease or disorder.

27. (Amended) Use of a composition as claimed in claim 1 as an antimicrobial, antiviral, anti-retrovirus, or antifungal formulation.

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28. (Amended) An antimicrobial, antiviral, antiretrovirus or antifungal formulation comprising a composition as claimed in claim 1 in conjunction with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, diluent or excipient therefor.

29. (Amended) Use of a composition as claimed in claim 1 for the treatment of water, or predominantly water-containing material.

30. (Amended) Use of a composition as claimed in claim 1 for the treatment of sewage, industrial or municipal wastes.

31. (Amended) Use of a composition as claimed in claim 1 for the treatment of foodstuffs as a disinfectant or bactericide, particularly copper containing such compositions.

32. (Amended) Use of a composition as claimed in claim 1 for the preservation of plants, flowers, trees or shrubs.

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33. (Amended) Use of a composition as claimed in claim 1 in the treatment of a metal for coating, sealing, plating or otherwise forming an anti-corrosive layer upon a metallic substrate.